No. 137, Original

JAN 31 2007

In The
Supreme Court of the United States

STATE OF MONTANA,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF WYOMING

and

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,

Defendants.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BILL OF COMPLAINT, BILL OF COMPLAINT, AND BRIEF IN SUPPORT

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January 2007

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STATE OF MONTANA,

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STATE OF WYOMING

and

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,

Defendants.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BILL OF COMPLAINT

Comes now the State of Montana, by and through the Attorney General of Montana, Mike McGrath, pursuant to the authority vested in him under the laws of Montana, and moves the Court for leave to file the accompanying Bill of Complaint.

In support of its Motion, the State of Montana asserts that its claims arise from an interstate water compact, its claims are serious and dignified, and there is no alternative forum in which adequate relief may be had. For the reasons more fully stated in the accompanying Brief in

Support, the Motion of the State of Montana for Leave to File Bill of Complaint should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

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Defendants.

BILL OF COMPLAINT

The State of Montana, by and through its Attorney General, Mike McGrath, brings this suit against Defendants the State of Wyoming and the State of North Dakota, and for its cause of action states:

1. The Court has exclusive and original jurisdiction of this suit under Article III, Section 2, Clause 2, of the Constitution of the United States and Title 28, Section 1251(a), of the United States Code.

2. The Tongue and Powder Rivers are interstate tributaries of the Yellowstone River. They originate in the State of Wyoming and flow generally northward into the State of Montana, where they join the mainstem of the Yellowstone River. The Yellowstone River flows generally

northeast across the State of Montana and joins the Missouri River just after crossing into the State of North Dakota.

3. The waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers have been equitably divided and apportioned among the States of Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming by the Yellowstone River Compact. The Yellowstone River Compact (Compact) was negotiated pursuant to Article I, Section 10, Clause 3, of the Constitution of the United States and pursuant to the Act of Congress of June 2, 1949, 63 Stat. 152. The Compact was entered into by the States of Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming on the basis of an agreement reached on December 8, 1950. Each of the States subsequently ratified the Compact by legislative enactment. Act of Feb. 13, 1951, ch. 39, 1951 Mont. Laws 58 (codified at Mont. Code Ann. § 85-20-101 (2005)); Act of Mar. 7, 1951, ch. 339, 1951 N. D. Laws 505 (codified at N.D. Cent. Code § 61-23-01 (2005)); Act of Jan. 27, 1951, ch. 10, 1951 Wyo. Sess. Laws 7 (codified at Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 41-12-601 (2005)). The consent of the Congress of the United States to the Compact was granted by Act of October 10, 1951, 65 Stat. 663. The Compact is reprinted in the Appendix to this Bill of Complaint.

4. The State of North Dakota is named as a party to this cause of action as a signatory State to the Compact.

5. The waters of the Tongue and Powder River Basins are part of the Yellowstone River System and the Yellowstone River Basin as defined in Article II of the Compact.

6. The Compact was intended to effect and did effect a full equitable division and apportionment of all the waters of the Tongue and Powder River Basins.

7. Article V of the Compact apportions among the compacting States the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers that were in use in each State as of January 1, 1950, and for which appropriative water rights existed in each State as of that time. Article V also allocates the unused and unappropriated waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers as of January 1, 1950 as shall be necessary to provide supplemental water for existing rights. Finally, Article V allocates any remaining water of the Tongue and Powder Rivers by specified percentages.

8. Wyoming refuses to curtail consumption of the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers in excess of Wyoming's consumption of such waters existing as of January 1, 1950, whenever the amount of water necessary to satisfy Montana's uses of such waters existing as of that date is not passing the Wyoming-Montana stateline, in violation of Montana's rights under Article V of the Compact.

9. Since January 1, 1950, Wyoming has allowed construction and use of new and expanded water storage facilities in the Tongue and Powder River Basins, in violation of Montana's rights under Article V of the Compact.

10. Since January 1, 1950, Wyoming has allowed new acreage to be put under irrigation in the Tongue and Powder River Basins, in violation of Montana's rights under Article V of the Compact.

11. Since January 1, 1950, Wyoming has allowed the construction and use of groundwater wells for irrigation and for other uses and has allowed the pumping of groundwater associated with coalbed methane production in the Tongue and Powder River Basins, in violation of Montana's rights under Article V of the Compact.

12. Since January 1, 1950, Wyoming has allowed the consumption of water on existing irrigated acreage in the Tongue and Powder River Basins to be increased in violation of Montana's rights under Article V of the Compact.

13. By undertaking and allowing the aforementioned actions, the State of Wyoming has depleted and is threatening further to deplete the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers allocated to the State of Montana under Article V of the Compact.

14. By depleting the waters allocated to the State of Montana, the State of Wyoming has injured the State of Montana and its water users.

15. Unless relief is granted by this Court, water use in the State of Wyoming in excess of its equitable share of the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers will continue and increase, resulting in substantial and irreparable injury to the State of Montana and its water users.

16. The State of Wyoming refuses to comply with Article V of the Yellowstone River Compact with respect to the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers, despite requests by the State of Montana that it do so.

17. The State of Montana has no adequate remedy at law to enforce its rights to the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers against the State of Wyoming.

18. The State of Montana has no sufficient remedy for the aforementioned violations of the Yellowstone River Compact by the State of Wyoming except by invoking the Court's original jurisdiction in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the State of Montana respectfully prays that the Court:

A. Declare the rights of the State of Montana to the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers pursuant to the Yellowstone River Compact;

B. Issue its Decree commanding the State of Wyoming in the future to deliver the waters of the Tongue and Powder Rivers in accordance with the provisions of the Yellowstone River Compact;

C. Award to the State of Montana all damages and other relief, including pre- and post-judgment interest, for the injury suffered by the State of Montana as a result of the State of Wyoming's past and continuing violations of the Yellowstone River Compact with respect to the waters of the Tongue and Powder River Basins; and

D. Grant such costs and other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Counsel of Record*

January 2007

Appendix to Bill of Complaint

Yellowstone River Compact
As Enacted by Congress
65 Stat. 663 (1951)

AN ACT

Granting the consent of Congress to a compact entered into by the States of Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming relating to the waters of the Yellowstone River.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of the Congress is hereby given to an interstate compact relating to the waters of the Yellowstone River which was signed (after negotiations in which a representative of the United States duly appointed by the President participated) by the Commissioners for the States of Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming on December 8, 1950, at Billings, Montana, and which was thereafter ratified by the legislatures of each of the States aforesaid as provided by Public Law 83, Eighty-first Congress, approved June 2, 1949, which compact reads as follows:

YELLOWSTONE RIVER COMPACT

The State of Montana, the State of North Dakota, and the State of Wyoming, being moved by consideration of interstate comity, and desiring to remove all causes of present and future controversy between said States and between persons in one and persons in another with respect to the waters of the Yellowstone River and its tributaries, other than waters within or waters which contribute to the flow of streams within the Yellowstone

National Park, and desiring to provide for an equitable division and apportionment of such waters, and to encourage the beneficial development and use thereof, acknowledging that in future projects or programs for the regulation, control and use of water in the Yellowstone River Basin the great importance of water for irrigation in the signatory States shall be recognized, have resolved to conclude a Compact as authorized under the Act of Congress of the United States of America, approved June 2, 1949 (Public Law 83, 81st Congress, First Session), for the attainment of these purposes, and to that end, through their respective governments, have named as their respective Commissioners:

For the State of Montana:

Fred E. Buck
A. W. Bradshaw
H. W. Bunston
John Herzog
John M. Jarussi
Ashton Jones
Chris Josephson
A. Wallace Kingsbury
P. F. Leonard
Walter M. McLaughlin
Dave M. Manning
Joseph Muggli
Chester E. Onstad
Ed F. Parriott
R. R. Renne
Keith W. Trout

For the State of North Dakota:

I. A. Acker
Einar H. Dahl
J. J. Walsh

For the State of Wyoming:

L. C. Bishop
Earl T. Bower
J. Harold Cash
Ben F. Cochrane
Ernest J. Goppert
Richard L. Greene
E. C. Gwillim
E. J. Johnson
Lee E. Keith
N. V. Kurtz
Harry L. Littlefield
R. E. McNally
Will G. Metz
Mark N. Partridge
Alonzo R. Shreve
Charles M. Smith
Leonard F. Thornton
M. B. Walker

who, after negotiations participated in by R. J. Newell, appointed as the representative of the United States of America, have agreed upon the following articles, to wit:

ARTICLE I

A. Where the name of a State is used in this Compact, as a party thereto, it shall be construed to include the individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, districts, administrative departments, bureaus, political subdivisions, agencies, persons, permittees, appropriators, and all others using, claiming, or in any manner asserting any right to the use of the waters of the Yellowstone River System under the authority of said State.

B. Any individual, corporation, partnership, association, district, administrative department, bureau, political subdivision, agency, person, permittee, or appropriator authorized by or under the laws of a signatory State and all others using, claiming, or in any manner asserting any right to the use of the waters of the Yellowstone River System under the authority of said State, shall be subject to the terms of this Compact. Where the singular is used in this article, it shall be construed to include the plural.

ARTICLE II

A. The State of Montana, the State of North Dakota, and the State of Wyoming are hereinafter designated as "Montana," "North Dakota," and "Wyoming," respectively.

B. The terms "Commission" and "Yellowstone River Compact Commission" mean the agency created as provided herein for the administration of this Compact.

C. The term "Yellowstone River Basin" means areas in Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota drained by the Yellowstone River and its tributaries, and includes the area in Montana known as Lake Basin, but excludes those lands lying within Yellowstone National Park.

D. The term "Yellowstone River System" means the Yellowstone River and all of its tributaries, including springs and swamps, from their sources to the mouth of the Yellowstone River near Buford, North Dakota, except those portions thereof which are within or contribute to the flow of streams within the Yellowstone National Park.

E. The term "Tributary" means any stream which in a natural state contributes to the flow of the Yellowstone River, including interstate tributaries and tributaries

thereof, but excluding those which are within or contribute to the flow of streams within the Yellowstone National Park.

F. The term "Interstate Tributaries" means the Clarks Fork, Yellowstone River; the Bighorn River (except Little Bighorn River); the Tongue River, and the Powder River, whose confluences with the Yellowstone River are respectively at or near the city (or town) of Laurel, Big Horn, Miles City, and Terry, all in the State of Montana.

G. The terms "Divert" and "Diversion" mean the taking or removing of water from the Yellowstone River or any tributary thereof when the water so taken or removed is not returned directly into the channel of the Yellowstone River or of the tributary from which it is taken.

H. The term "Beneficial Use" is herein defined to be that use by which the water supply of a drainage basin is depleted when usefully employed by the activities of man.

I. The term "Domestic Use" shall mean the use of water by an individual, or by a family unit or household for drinking, cooking, laundering, sanitation, and other personal comforts and necessities; and for the irrigation of a family garden or orchard not exceeding one-half acre in area.

J. The term "Stock Water Use" shall mean the use of water for livestock and poultry.

ARTICLE III

A. It is considered that no Commission or administrative body is necessary to administer this Compact or divide the waters of the Yellowstone River Basin as

between the States of Montana and North Dakota. The provisions of this Compact, as between the States of Wyoming and Montana, shall be administered by a Commission composed of one representative from the State of Wyoming and one representative from the State of Montana, to be selected by the Governors of said States as such States may choose, and one representative selected by the Director of the United States Geological Survey or whatever Federal agency may succeed to the functions and duties of that agency, to be appointed by him at the request of the States to sit with the Commission and who shall, when present, act as Chairman of the Commission without vote, except as herein provided.

B. The salaries and necessary expenses of each State representative shall be paid by the respective State; all other expenses incident to the administration of this Compact not borne by the United States shall be allocated to and borne one-half by the State of Wyoming and one-half by the State of Montana.

C. In addition to other powers and duties herein conferred upon the Commission and the members thereof, the jurisdiction of the Commission shall include the collection, correlation, and presentation of factual data, the maintenance of records having a bearing upon the administration of this Compact, and recommendations to such States upon matters connected with the administration of this Compact, and the Commission may employ such services and make such expenditures as reasonable and necessary within the limit of funds provided for that purpose by the respective States and shall compile a report for each year ending September 30 and transmit it to the Governors of the signatory States on or before December 31 of each year.

D. The Secretary of the Army; the Secretary of the Interior; the Secretary of Agriculture; the Chairman, Federal Power Commission; the Secretary of Commerce, or comparable officers of whatever Federal agencies may succeed to the functions and duties of these agencies and such other Federal officers and officers of appropriate agencies of the signatory States having services or data useful or necessary to the Compact Commission, shall cooperate, ex officio, with the Commission in the execution of its duty in the collection, correlation, and publication of records and data necessary for the proper administration of the Compact; and these officers may perform such other services related to the Compact as may be mutually agreed upon with the Commission.

E. The Commission shall have power to formulate rules and regulations and to perform any act which it may find necessary to carry out the provisions of this Compact, and to amend such rules and regulations. All such rules and regulations shall be filed in the office of the State Engineer of each of the signatory States for public inspection.

F. In case of the failure of the representatives of Wyoming and Montana to unanimously agree on any matter necessary to the proper administration of this Compact, then the member selected by the Director of the United States Geological Survey shall have the right to vote upon the matters in disagreement and such points of disagreement shall then be decided by a majority vote of the representatives of the States of Wyoming and Montana and said member selected by the Director of the United States Geological Survey, each being entitled to one vote.

G. The Commission herein authorized shall have power to sue and be sued in its official capacity in any Federal Court of the signatory States and may adopt and use an official seal which shall be judicially noticed.

ARTICLE IV

The Commission shall itself, or in conjunction with other responsible agencies, cause to be established, maintained, and operated such suitable water gaging and evaporation stations as it finds necessary in connection with its duties.

ARTICLE V

A. Appropriative rights to the beneficial uses of the water of the Yellowstone River System existing in each signatory State as of January 1, 1950, shall continue to be enjoyed in accordance with the laws governing the acquisition and use of water under the doctrine of appropriation.

B. Of the unused and unappropriated waters of the Interstate tributaries of the Yellowstone River as of January 1, 1950, there is allocated to each signatory State such quantity of that water as shall be necessary to provide supplemental water supplies for the rights described in paragraph A of this Article V, such supplemental rights to be acquired and enjoyed in accordance with the laws governing the acquisition and use of water under the doctrine of appropriation, and the remainder of the unused and unappropriated water is allocated to each State for storage or direct diversions for beneficial use on new lands or for other purposes as follows:

1. Clarks Fork, Yellowstone River

   a. To Wyoming ---------- 60%

      To Montana---------- 40%

   b. The point of measurement shall be below the last diversion from Clarks Fork above Rock Creek.

2. Bighorn River (Exclusive of Little Bighorn River)

   a. To Wyoming ---------- 80%

      To Montana---------- 20%

   b. The point of measurement shall be below the last diversion from the Bighorn River above its junction with the Yellowstone River, and the inflow of the Little Bighorn River shall be excluded from the quantity of water subject to allocation.

3. Tongue River

   a. To Wyoming ---------- 40%

      To Montana---------- 60%

   b. The point of measurement shall be below the last diversion from the Tongue River above its junction with the Yellowstone River.

4. Powder River (including the Little Powder River)

   a. To Wyoming ---------- 42%

      To Montana---------- 58%

   b. The point of measurement shall be below the last diversion from the Powder River above its junction with the Yellowstone River.

C. The quantity of water subject to the percentage allocations, in Paragraph B 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this Article V, shall be determined on an annual water year basis

measured from October 1st of any year through September 30th of the succeeding year. The quantity to which the percentage factors shall be applied through a given date in any water year shall be, in acre-feet, equal to the algebraic sum of:

1. The total diversions, in acre-feet, above the point of measurement, for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses in Wyoming and Montana developed after January 1, 1950, during the period from October 1st to that given date;

2. The net change in storage, in acre-feet, in all reservoirs in Wyoming and Montana above the point of measurement completed subsequent to January 1, 1950, during the period from October 1st to that given date;

3. The net change in storage, in acre-feet, in existing reservoirs in Wyoming and Montana above the point of measurement, which is used for irrigation, municipal, and industrial purposes developed after January 1, 1950, during the period October 1st to that given date;

4. The quantity of water, in acre-feet, that passed the point of measurement in the stream during the period from October 1st to that given date.

D. All existing rights to the beneficial use of waters of the Yellowstone River in the States of Montana and North Dakota, below Intake, Montana, valid under the laws of these States as of January 1, 1950, are hereby recognized and shall be and remain unimpaired by this Compact. During the period May 1 to September 30, inclusive, of each year, lands within Montana and North Dakota shall be entitled to the beneficial use of the flow of waters of the Yellowstone River below Intake, Montana, on

a proportionate basis of acreage irrigated. Waters of tributary streams, having their origin in either Montana or North Dakota, situated entirely in said respective States and flowing into the Yellowstone River below Intake, Montana, are allotted to the respective States in which situated.

E. There are hereby excluded from the provisions of this Compact:

1. Existing and future domestic and stock water uses of water: *Provided,* That the capacity of any reservoir for stock water so excluded shall not exceed 20 acre-feet;

2. Devices and facilities for the control and regulation of surface waters.

F. From time to time the Commission shall reexamine the allocations herein made and upon unanimous agreement may recommend modifications therein as are fair, just, and equitable, giving consideration among other factors to:

Priorities of water rights;
Acreage irrigated;
Acreage irrigable under existing works; and
Potentially irrigable lands.

ARTICLE VI

Nothing contained in this Compact shall be so construed or interpreted as to affect adversely any rights to the use of the waters of Yellowstone River and its tributaries owned by or for Indians, Indian tribes, and their reservations.

ARTICLE VII

A. A lower signatory State shall have the right, by compliance with the laws of an upper signatory State, except as to legislative consent, to file application for and receive permits to appropriate and use any waters in the Yellowstone River System not specifically apportioned to or appropriated by such upper State as provided in Article V; and to construct or participate in the construction and use of any dam, storage reservoir, or diversion works in such upper State for the purpose of conserving and regulating water that may be apportioned to or appropriated by the lower State: *Provided*, That such right is subject to the rights of the upper State to control, regulate, and use the water apportioned to and appropriated by it: *And provided further*, That should an upper State elect, it may share in the use of any such facilities constructed by a lower State to the extent of its reasonable needs upon assuming or guaranteeing payment of its proportionate share of the cost of the construction, operation, and maintenance. This provision shall apply with equal force and effect to an upper State in the circumstance of the necessity of the acquisition of rights by an upper State in a lower State.

B. Each claim hereafter initiated for an appropriation of water in one signatory State for use in another signatory State shall be filed in the Office of the State Engineer of the signatory State in which the water is to be diverted, and a duplicate copy of the application or notice shall be filed in the office of the State Engineer of the signatory State in which the water is to be used.

C. Appropriations may hereafter be adjudicated in the State in which the water is diverted, and where a

portion or all of the lands irrigated are in another signatory State, such adjudications shall be confirmed in that State by the proper authority. Each adjudication is to conform with the laws of the State where the water is diverted and shall be recorded in the County and State where the water is used.

D. The use of water allocated under Article V of this Compact for projects constructed after the date of this Compact by the United States of America or any of its agencies or instrumentalities, shall be charged as a use by the State in which the use is made: *Provided*, That such use incident to the diversion, impounding, or conveyance of water in one State for use in another shall be charged to such latter State.

ARTICLE VIII

A lower signatory State shall have the right to acquire in an upper State by purchase, or through exercise of the power of eminent domain, such lands, easements, and rights-of-way for the construction, operation, and maintenance of pumping plants, storage reservoirs, canals, conduits, and appurtenant works as may be required for the enjoyment of the privileges granted herein to such lower State. This provision shall apply with equal force and effect to an upper State in the circumstance of the necessity of the acquisition of rights by an upper State in a lower State.

ARTICLE IX

Should any facilities be constructed by a lower signatory State in an upper signatory State under the provisions of Article VII, the construction, operation, repairs,

and replacements of such facilities shall be subject to the laws of the upper State. This provision shall apply with equal force and effect to an upper State in the circumstance of the necessity of the acquisition of rights by an upper State in a lower State.

ARTICLE X

No water shall be diverted from the Yellowstone River Basin without the unanimous consent of all the signatory States. In the event water from another river basin shall be imported into the Yellowstone River Basin or transferred from one tributary basin to another by the United States of America, Montana, North Dakota, or Wyoming, or any of them jointly, the State having the right to the use of such water shall be given proper credit therefor in determining its share of the water apportioned in accordance with Article V herein.

ARTICLE XI

The provisions of this Compact shall remain in full force and effect until amended in the same manner as it is required to be ratified to become operative as provided in Article XV.

ARTICLE XII

This Compact may be terminated at any time by unanimous consent of the signatory States, and upon such termination all rights then established hereunder shall continue unimpaired.

ARTICLE XIII

Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to limit or prevent any State from instituting or maintaining any action or proceeding, legal or equitable, in any Federal Court or the United States Supreme Court, for the protection of any right under this Compact or the enforcement of any of its provisions.

ARTICLE XIV

The physical and other conditions characteristic of the Yellowstone River and peculiar to the territory drained and served thereby and to the development thereof, have actuated the signatory States in the consummation of this Compact, and none of them, or the United States of America by its consent and approval, concedes thereby the establishment of any general principle or precedent with respect to other interstate streams.

ARTICLE XV

This Compact shall become operative when approved by the Legislature of each of the signatory States and consented to and approved by the Congress of the United States.

ARTICLE XVI

Nothing in this Compact shall be deemed:

(a) To impair or affect the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the United States of America in or over the area of waters affected by such compact, any rights or powers of

the United States of America, its agencies, or instrumentalities, in and to the use of the waters of the Yellowstone River Basin nor its capacity to acquire rights in and to the use of said waters;

(b) To subject any property of the United States of America, its agencies, or instrumentalities to taxation by any State or subdivision thereof, or to create an obligation on the part of the United States of America, its agencies, or instrumentalities, by reason of the acquisition, construction, or operation of any property or works of whatsoever kind, to make any payments to any State or political subdivision thereof, State agency, municipality, or entity whatsoever in reimbursement for the loss of taxes;

(c) To subject any property of the United States of America, its agencies, or instrumentalities, to the laws of any State to an extent other than the extent to which these laws would apply without regard to the Compact.

ARTICLE XVII

Should a Court of competent jurisdiction hold any part of this Compact to be contrary to the constitution of any signatory State or of the United States of America, all other severable provisions of this Compact shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XVIII

No sentence, phrase, or clause in this Compact or in any provision thereof, shall be construed or interpreted to divest any signatory State or any of the agencies or officers of such States of the jurisdiction of the water of each State as apportioned in this Compact.

In Witness Whereof the Commissioners have signed this Compact in quadruplicate original, one of which shall be filed in the archives of the Department of State of the United States of America and shall be deemed the authoritative original, and of which a duly certified copy shall be forwarded to the Governor of each signatory State.

Done at the City of Billings in the State of Montana, this 8th day of December, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty.

Commissioners for the State of Montana:

Fred E. Buck	/s/ Fred E. Buck
A. W. Bradshaw	/s/ A. W. Bradshaw
H. W. Bunston	/s/ H. W. Bunston
John Herzog	/s/ John Herzog
John M. Jarussi	/s/ John M. Jarussi
Ashton Jones	/s/ Ashton Jones
Chris Josephson	/s/ Chris Josephson
A. Wallace Kingsbury	/s/ A. Wallace Kingsbury
P. F. Leonard	/s/ P. F. Leonard
Walter M. McLaughlin	/s/ Walter M. McLaughlin
Dave M. Manning	/s/ Dave M. Manning
Joseph Muggli	/s/ Joseph Muggli
Chester E. Onstad	/s/ Chester E. Onstad
Ed F. Parriott	/s/ Ed F. Parriott
R. R. Renne	/s/ R. R. Renne
Keith W. Trout	/s/ Keith W. Trout

Commissioners for the State of North Dakota:

I. A. Acker	/s/ I. A. Acker
Einar H. Dahl	/s/ Einar H. Dahl
J. J. Walsh	/s/ J. J. Walsh

Commissioners for the State of Wyoming:

L. C. Bishop	/s/ L. C. Bishop
Earl T. Bower	/s/ Earl T. Bower
J. Harold Cash	/s/ J. Harold Cash
Ben F. Cochrane	/s/ Ben F. Cochrane
Ernest J. Goppert	/s/ Ernest J. Goppert
Richard L. Greene	/s/ Richard L. Greene
E. C. Gwillim	/s/ E. C. Gwillim
E. J. Johnson	/s/ E. J. Johnson
Lee E. Keith	/s/ Lee E. Keith
N. V. Kurtz	/s/ N. V. Kurtz
Harry L. Littlefield	/s/ Harry L. Littlefield
R. E. McNally	/s/ R. E. McNally
Will G. Metz	/s/ Will G. Metz
Mark N. Partridge	/s/ Mark N. Partridge
Alonzo R. Shreve	/s/ Alonzo R. Shreve
Charles M. Smith	/s/ Charles M. Smith
Leonard F. Thornton	/s/ Leonard F. Thornton
M. B. Walker	/s/ M. B. Walker

"I have participated in the negotiation of this Compact and intend to report favorably thereon to the Congress of the United States.

/s/ R. J. Newell
R. J. Newell,

Representative of the United States of America."

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend or repeal section 1 of this Act is expressly reserved. This reservation shall not be construed to prevent the vesting of rights to the use of water pursuant to applicable law and no alteration, amendment, or repeal of section 1 of this Act shall be held to affect rights so vested.

Approved October 30, 1951.